

**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application No. : (To be assigned) Confirmation No. : (To be assigned)  
Applicant : Tomohiro SHIRAKAWA, et al.  
Filed : Concurrently herewith  
TC/A.U. : (To be assigned)  
Examiner : (To be assigned)  
Docket No. : 010482.53914US  
Customer No. : 23911  
Title : Tray Device Mechanism for Optical Disc Apparatus

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 CFR §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

**Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

**STATEMENT OF RELEVANCE**

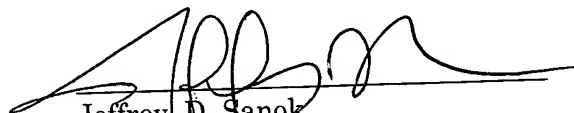
The relevance of these references to the subject matter of the present invention is given in the Background of the Invention in the specification of the present invention.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

If necessary, the paper should be considered as a petition for consideration of the Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d)(2) and that the petition fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i) in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d)(3) should be charged to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #010482.53914US).

Respectfully submitted,

March 25, 2004

  
Jeffrey D. Sanok  
Registration No. 32,169

CROWELL & MORING LLP  
Intellectual Property Group  
P.O. Box 14300  
Washington, DC 20044-4300  
Telephone No.: (202) 624-2500  
Facsimile No.: (202) 628-8844

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FORM PTO-1449 U.S. Department of Commerce Patent & Trademark Office  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE          STATEMENT</b> <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>	Attorney Docket No. 010482.53914US	Serial No. Not yet assigned
	Applicant: Tomohiro SHIRAKAWA et al.	
	Filing Date Concurrently herewith	Group

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub-Class	Filing Date (if appropriate)
	AA						
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Sub-Class	TRANSLATION	
							Yes	No
	AK	2000-011511	1/14/2000	Japan			Abstract	
	AL	2000-339877	12/8/2000	Japan			Abstract	
	AM							
	AN							
	AO							
	AP							

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)		
	AQ	
	AR	
	AS	

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication.	